

# **National Weather Service – Glasgow**

## **2005 Annual Fire Weather Report**

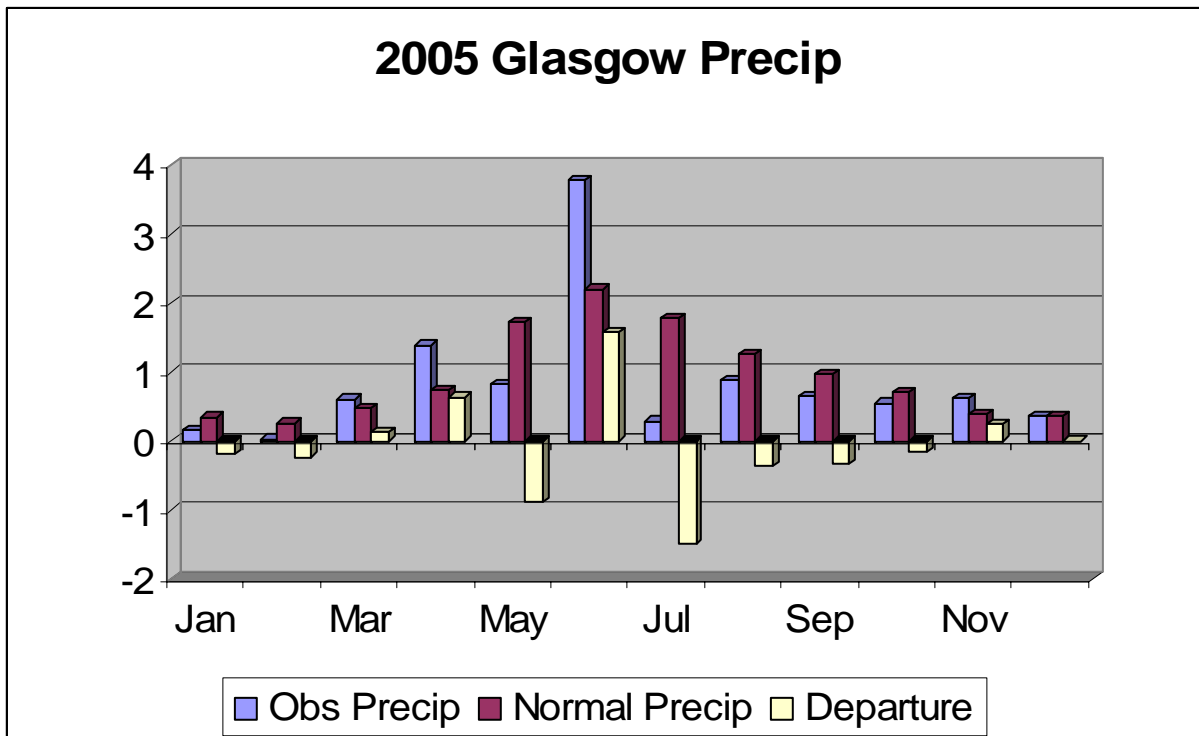
### **Northeast Montana**



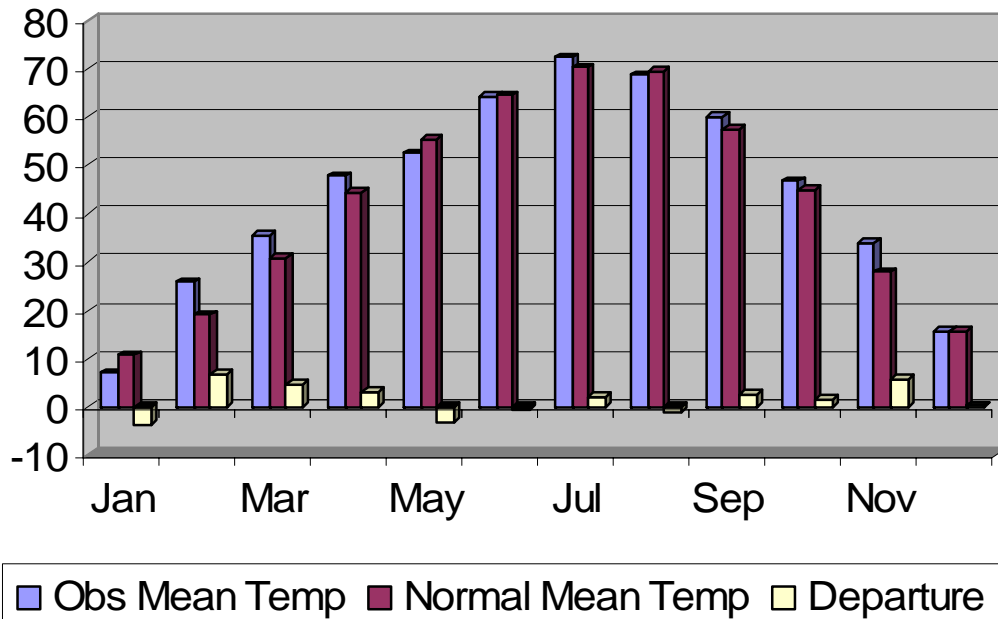
## 1. Overview

The beginning to the winter 2005 through the first part of January was very cold as Arctic air sat over northeast Montana. Precipitation was above normal. For the rest of the winter, temperatures were above normal with drier than normal conditions. The spring was warmer and wetter than normal. For the first part of the summer, temperatures were near normal, but precipitation was much above normal. June is climatologically the wettest month in Glasgow, and 2005 was no exception.

Precipitation for the month totaled 3.78 inches which was 1.58 inches above the normal of 2.20 inches. The early excess spring precipitation allowed vegetation to remain green and grow taller than in previous years. By the middle of summer, temperatures remained above normal, but precipitation dropped below normal again. At the end of summer, traditionally the more active fire month of August, drier than normal conditions continued. However, temperatures were cooler than normal. As summer transitioned into fall, precipitation remained below normal with above normal temperatures. By mid fall, above normal temperatures continued, but a wetter pattern brought a return to wetter than normal conditions. The fall ended with near normal temperatures and precipitation. Overall for the season across the entire area, the most precipitation fell along and south of the hi-line. The northeast corner of northeast Montana did not fare quite as well and remains abnormally dry.



## 2005 Glasgow Mean Temps



## 2. Outreach

At the start of the fire season, Jennifer Zeltwanger and Jeff Zeltwanger visited the BLM in Miles City, MT along with the program leader/IMET from Billings. An open discussion was held about the upcoming season and information available on the NWS web sites.

In the spring, WCM Tanja Fransen and IMET Jennifer Zeltwanger visited the Fort Peck BIA fire office in Poplar, MT.

WFO Glasgow participated in a weekly fire danger conference call led by the Lewistown DNRC and BLM from June to September. Several county and state agencies also participated in this call that provided updates to the fire danger situation across the area.

### 3. Fire Weather Watch and Red Flag Warning Verification

#### ***All Red Flag Events***

Fire Weather Watches Issued.....25  
Red Flag Warnings Issued.....36  
Warnings Verified.....29  
Unverified Warnings.....7  
Missed Events.....1  
Warnings Preceded by a Watch.....22  
Ave Warning Leadtime.....11.9 hours  
Watch Leadtime.....25.4 hours

POD 0.967

FAR 0.194

CSI 0.784

#### ***Synoptic Events***

Fire Weather Watches Issued.....25  
Red Flag Warnings Issued.....34  
Warnings Verified.....29  
Unverified Warnings.....5  
Missed Events.....1  
Warnings Preceded by a Watch....22  
Ave Warning Leadtime.....11.9 hours  
Watch Leadtime.....25.4 hours

POD 0.970

FAR 0.150

CSI 0.830

#### ***Dry Thunderstorms***

Fire Weather Watches Issued.....none  
Red Flag Warnings Issued.....2  
Warnings Verified.....0  
Unverified Warnings.....2  
Missed Events.....0  
Warnings Preceded by a Watch...none  
Ave Warning Leadtime.....0 hours  
Watch Leadtime.....0 hours

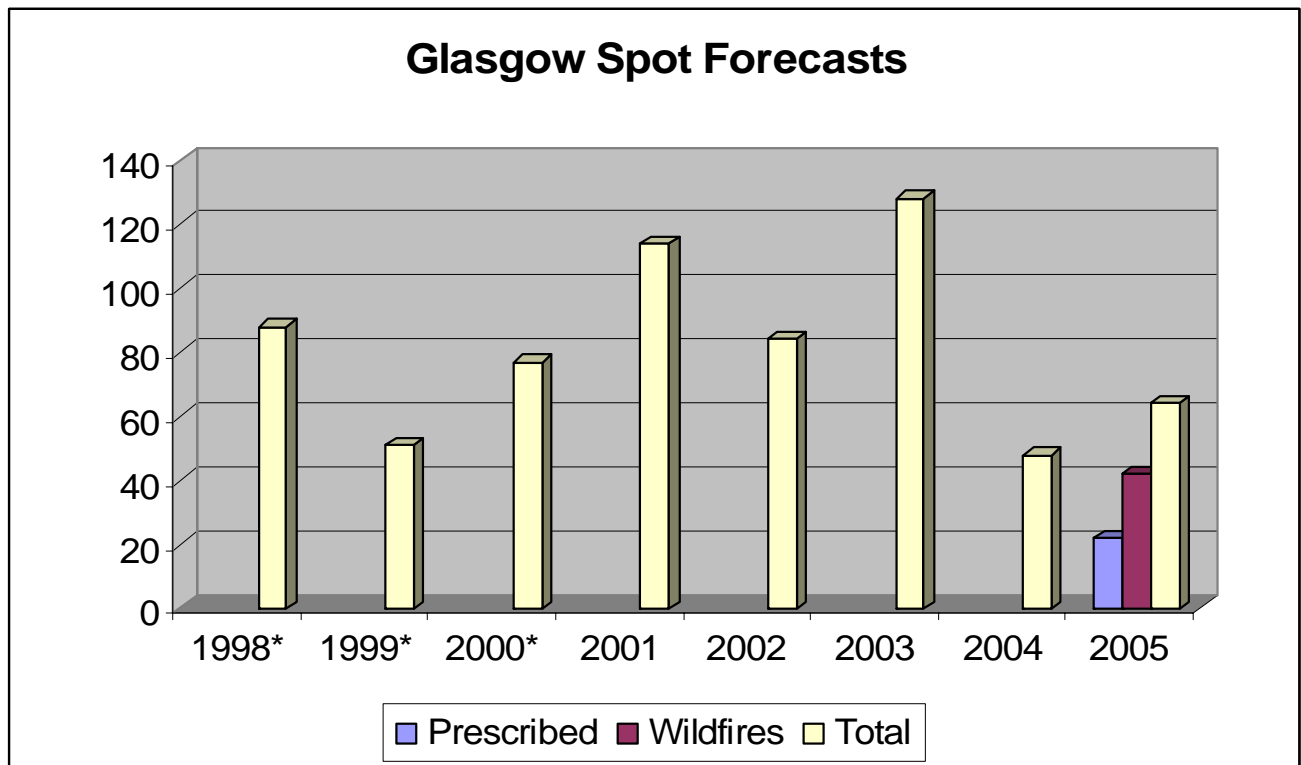
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FAR 1.0

CSI 0.0

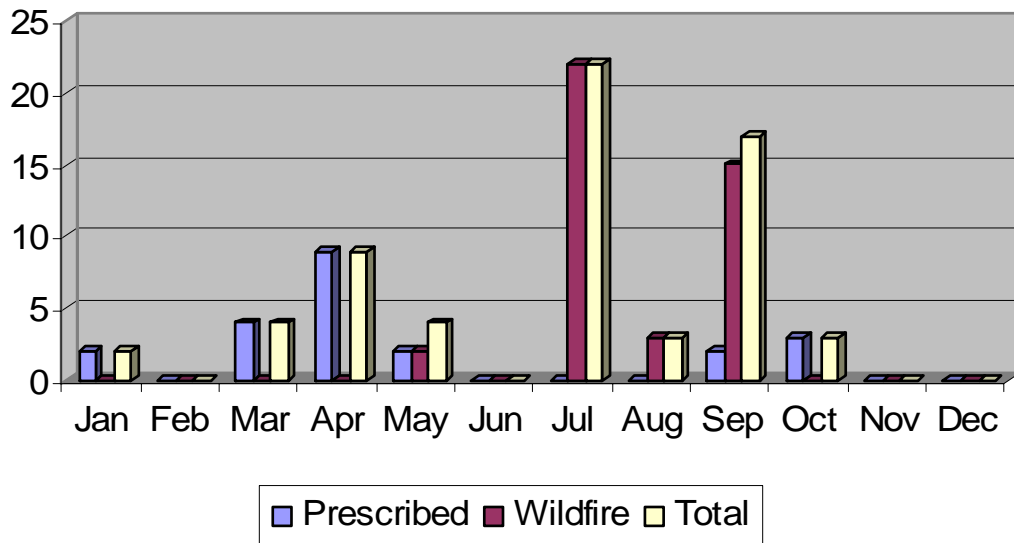
#### 4. Spot forecast

WFO Glasgow did 64 spot forecasts in 2005. 22 were for prescribed burns and 42 were for wildfires. For comparison, we did 48 spots in 2004, 128 spots in 2003, 84 in 2002 and 114 in 2001. WFO Billings did 77 spots in our area in 2000, 51 in 1999, and 88 in 1998.



***\*1998-2000 spots in northeast Montana done by WFO Billings***

## Monthly Breakdown - Glasgow Spots



### Monthly Breakdown

Month	Prescribed	Wildfire	Total
January	2	0	2
February	0	0	0
March	4	0	4
April	9	0	9
May	2	2	4
June	0	0	0
July	0	22	22
August	0	3	3
September	2	15	17
October	3	0	3
November	0	0	0
December	0	0	0

### Agency Breakdown

Agency	Location	Projects	Prescribed	Wildfires	Total
BLM	Lewistown	14	2	12	30
BLM	Miles City	6	1	5	15
USFWS	Medicine Lake Refuge	6			6
USFWS	Bowdoin Refuge		3		8
USFWS	CMR	1		1	5

***Prescribed Burns:***

Name of project	Agency	Forecasts	Acres burned
Landusky Piles	BLM Lewistown	2	19
Mcneil Slough	Bowdoin	4	90
North Auto Tour	Bowdoin	3	250
Dyrdahl	BLM Lewistown	3	415
Farm Pond	Bowdoin	1	360
NE Gaffney	Medicine Lake	1	100
South Tax Bay	Medicine Lake	1	100
Katy Lake West	Medicine Lake	1	1
State Line	Medicine Lake	1	250
Mc Donalds	Medicine Lake	1	48
Kittleson	Medicine Lake	1	300
North Pine	BLM Miles City	3	1

***Wildfires:***

Name of Wildfire	Agency	Forecasts	Acres
Nelson	BLM Miles City	4	22
Brandon Coulee	BLM Lewistown	3	1800
Coyote	BLM Lewistown	1	1
Drag	BLM Lewistown	2	3
South Fork	BLM Lewistown	1	1
Mc Arthur	BLM Lewistown	7	1500
Snow Creek	BLM Miles City	3	23
Two Calf	BLM Lewistown	1	1
Mudd Bogg	BLM Lewistown	2	3
Tripp	BLM Miles City	1	17
Early	BLM Lewistown	1	20
Newhouse	BLM Miles City	2	75
Poule	BLM Lewistown	1	1
McKeever	BLM Miles City	1	250
Nyquil	BLM Lewistown	4	450
Heartland	Charles M. Russell	6	14467

Total Acres Burned	18634
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**5. IMET Report**

Jennifer Zeltwanger had one IMET dispatch for 14 days in 2005. The fire that she worked at was the School Fire near Pomeroy, WA.